

VIROLOGY

1. Rabies: This lab does not do rabies examinations. Brain tissue from an animal suspected of having rabies must be submitted directly to the regional public health laboratory. Addresses of regional public health laboratories are on page 26.
2. Collect the specimens during the early stage of clinical diseases (the acute phase).
3. Collect swabs, feces, or tissue specimens as aseptically as possible.
4. Place the specimens individually in well labeled sterile test tube (swab) or whirl-pak bag.
5. Refrigerate or freeze the samples immediately after collection.
6. Do not let EDTA-blood freeze or be exposed to direct sunlight or high temperature prior to submitting for bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) virus isolation from buffy coat. Keep the EDTA-blood refrigerated.
7. Specimens should be sent to this lab as quickly as possible, preferably within 24-48 hours.
8. Ship refrigerated or frozen samples with sufficient cool-paks. Use leak proof insulated styrofoam containers or sturdy mailing cartons, which comply with postal or commercial carrier specifications, to ship the samples. Submit samples early in the week to avoid holding over weekend by the courier.
9. Brief information concerning history of disease, number, and age of animals affected, vaccination, etc. should accompany the samples.
10. When using "culturette" swabs, do not break the ampule as it may contain media which is inhibitory to some viruses.
11. Virus isolation is performed on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. It requires 7 to 14 days for completion.
12. Isolation of a microorganism does not confirm that it is the causative agent of the illness. Failure to isolate the suspected etiologic agent does not rule out the suspected disease.

VIROLOGY TEST CHART

TESTS	SPECIMEN	SHIPPING CONDITION	TYPE OF TEST	SPECIAL COMMENTS
<u>Canine</u>				
Canine Adenovirus	Lung, liver, kidney, spleen, lymph node	Refrigerated	VI	
Canine Calicivirus	Oropharyngeal swab, fecal swab, trachea, lung, kidney, intestine	Refrigerated	VI	
Canine Herpesvirus	Lung, liver, kidney, spleen, lymph node	Refrigerated	VI	
Canine Parvovirus	Small intestine, spleen, mesenteric lymph node	Refrigerated	VI	
<u>Equine</u>				
Equine Rhinopneumonitis Virus (ERV)	Lung, trachea, nasal swab, fetal organs	Refrigerated	VI	
<u>Feline</u>				
Feline Calicivirus	Oropharyngeal swab, nasal swab, lung, trachea	Refrigerated	VI	
Feline Herpesvirus (Feline Rhinotracheitis)	Nasal swab, tonsil, trachea, lung	Refrigerated	VI	
Feline Panleukopenia (Feline Distemper)	Small intestine, spleen, lymph node, fetal tissue	Refrigerated	VI	
<u>Porcine</u>				
Porcine Respiratory and Reproductive Syndrome (PRRS)	Lung, spleen, liver, tonsil, fetal tissues	Refrigerated	VI	Specifically request PRRS.
Porcine Parvovirus	Fetal tissues, spleen, lymph nodes	Refrigerated	VI	
Pseudorabies	Brain, tonsil, lung, spleen	Refrigerated	VI	
Swine Influenza	Lung, spleen, lymph node, nasal swab	Refrigerated	VI	Specifically request influenza.

TESTS	SPECIMEN	SHIPPING CONDITION	TYPE OF TEST	SPECIAL COMMENTS
<u>Ruminant</u>				
Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRSV)	Lung, trachea	Refrigerated	VI	Specifically request BRSV isolation.
Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) /Mucosal Disease	Buffly coat (EDTA blood), lung, intestine, spleen, fetal tissues	Refrigerated	VI	Please notify the laboratory regarding herd screening.
Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR)	Lung, trachea, fetal tissues	Refrigerated	VI	
Poxvirus	Skin lesion	Refrigerated	VI	

Key to abbreviations:

VI - Virus isolation